System	Series	Formation	Approximate thickness (feet)	Physical character	Hydrologic Comments
Quaternary	Recent, Pleistocene, and Pliocene	Undifferentiated alluvial and terrace deposits.	0-200	Loam, sand, gravel, and clay.	Terrace deposits along the coast yield moderate amounts of water to shallow wells. Alluvial deposits in Yazoo Basin yield abundant supplies of hard water.
		Loess and brown loam in bluffs above the alluvial plain of Mississippi River.	0-50	Yellow, brown, to gray calcareous silt and loam.	Not generally water bearing.
? Tertiary		Citronelle and Graham Perry	-1000	Sand, sandy gravel, gravel, clay, and clayey gravel.	Widespread occurrence as a water-table aquifer in southern Mississippi. Also serves as an auxiliary reservoir for underlying aquifers.
	Miocene	Pascagoula, Hattiesburg, and Catahoula.	0-2,500	Clay and shale, containing many beds of sand.	Sands yield large supplies of artesian water in southern Mississippi; deeper beds contain brackish water near the coast.
	Oligocene	Formations of the Vicksburg group.	0-185	Limestone, marl, clay and sand.	Capable of yielding some water but not extensively developed.
	Eocene	Formations of the Jackson and Claiborne groups.	0-2,800	Clays, marls, and sands.	Sands of the Cockfield and Sparta formations are most widely used artesian aquifers in control Mississippi. Buried deeply and contain salt water near the coast.
		Formations of the Wilcox group	0-2,700	Clays and sands, irregularly bedded.	Yields abundant supplies of water low in mineral matter to wells in central and northwest parts of the State.
	Paleocene	Chiefly Porters Creek clay.	0-1000+	Dark gray clays, some sands and limestone beds.	Rather impermeable as a whole and effectively confines underlying Cretaceous water.
Cretaceous	Upper Cretaceous	Ripley (part of Selma group)	0-300+	Compact to loose sand, sandy chalk, and clay.	Some sand beds are moderately permeable, yielding water to several towns and to farms in northeastern part of State.
		Selma group	0-500+	Compact marly chalk and limestone.	Not water-bearing.
		Eutaw	0-400+	Fine to medium sand with clay beds.	Yields moderate to abundant supplies of water to many towns and homes in northeast Mississippi.
		Tuscaloosa group	0-1000+	Light-colored sand and clay.	Important source of artesian water in northeast part of State.
	Lower Cretaceous	(undifferentiated)	0-7000+	Shales, sandstones, and limestones.	Contains salt water except perhaps where the sediments have their shallowest subsurface occurrence in northeast Mississippi.
Jurassic		(undifferentiated)	0-3000+	Shales, limestones, anhydrite, and salt.	Contains salt water.
Pre-Jurassic		Sedimentary rocks of Paleozoic age			

Table 14. GENERALIZED DESCRIPTION OF FORMATIONS AND THEIR HYDROLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS IN MISSISSIPPI